

ATTACHMENT A Amendments to the Claims

Following herewith is a complete listing of the claims, including a marked copy of the currently amended claims, and the newly added heading.

1. (Withdrawn) Nucleic acid in isolated form, encoding a polypeptide specific for the pathogenic strains of the *Neisseria* genus, or antigenic fragment thereof, excluding the sequences SEQ ID Nos 70A, 73A, 74A, 77A, 80A, 81A, 87A, 88A, 89A, 94A, 95A and 98A, the amino acid sequence of said specific polypeptide being identical or homologous to a sequence selected from the sequences of group II, group II consisting of the sequences SEQ ID No. 2 to SEQ ID No. 52 (even numbers) and the sequence SEQ ID No. 53.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Withdrawn) Nucleic acid according to claim 1, encoding a polypeptide specific for the pathogenic strains of the *Neisseria* genus, or antigenic fragment thereof, the amino acid sequence of said specific polypeptide being selected from the sequences SEQ ID Nos 55 to 77 (odd numbers).
4. (Withdrawn) Nucleic acid according to claim 3, having a nucleotide sequence selected from the sequences SEQ ID Nos 54 to 76 (even numbers).
5. (Withdrawn) Polypeptide specific for the pathogenic strains of the *Neisseria* genus, and antigenic fragments thereof, the amino acid sequence of said specific polypeptide being identical or homologous to a sequence selected from the sequences of group II,

consisting of the sequences SEQ ID No. 2 to SEQ ID No. 52 (even numbers) and the sequence SEQ ID No. 53.

6. (Withdrawn) Polypeptide according to claim 5, specific for the pathogenic strains of the *Neisseria* genus, and antigenic fragments thereof, the amino acid sequence of said specific polypeptide being selected from the sequences SEQ ID Nos 55 to 77 (even numbers).

7-9. (Canceled)

10. (Withdrawn) Monospecific antibody directed against a polypeptide according to Claim 5.

11-13. (Canceled)

14. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a polypeptide according to Claim 5, optionally in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle.

15. (Currently amended) An isolated nucleic acid which encodes (i) a polypeptide specific for pathogenic *Neisseria* strains that comprises an amino acid sequence which exhibits at least 80% identity with the amino acid sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO: 8 or (ii) an antigenic fragment thereof; provided that the nucleic acid sequence is not SEQ ID NO: 74A or SEQ ID NO: 95A.

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16. (Currently amended) The isolated nucleic acid according to claim 15, which encodes ~~(i) a polypeptide specific for pathogenic *Neisseria* strains and comprising an amino acid sequence which exhibits at least 80% identity with the amino acid sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO: 53 or (ii) an antigenic fragment thereof;~~ provided that the nucleic acid sequence is not ~~SEQ ID NO: 74A or SEQ ID NO: 95A~~ has the sequence SEQ ID NO: 7.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Canceled)

19. (Canceled)

20. (Canceled)

21. (Canceled)

22. (Canceled)

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23. (Previously presented) An expression vector comprising an expression cassette in which a nucleotide sequence as defined in claim 15 is placed under conditions allowing expression of said nucleotide sequence in a host cell.

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24. (Previously presented) A host cell transformed with the expression vector according to claim 23. 3